Dear Nominator:

The National Medal of Technology, the Nation's highest honor for technological achievement, is presented annually by the President of the United States. This program was first established by an act of Congress, and the Department of Commerce is proud to be entrusted with its management. We are beginning the process for the selection of the 2003 medal laureates, and it is my pleasure to open the call for nominations.

The National Medal of Technology recognizes American innovators who have made lasting contributions to advancing America's global competitiveness, economic prosperity, and quality of life. These pioneers in the amazing world of science and technology are American heroes. They are explorers and risk-takers who have pushed out the boundaries of science and technology in order to channel the power of these disciplines for the benefit of humankind. Their groundbreaking contributions have helped bring useful technologies to market, create jobs, increase U.S. productivity, and stimulate the Nation's economic development.

The Medal program highlights the importance of fostering the basic research and technological innovation that leads to commercially successful products and services. Past National Medal of Technology laureates continue to serve as role models for America's students by showing what they can achieve if they apply their science and math knowledge.

The deadline for submitting 2003 nominations is May 23, 2003. Laureates will then be selected by the National Medal of Technology Evaluation Committee--a panel of accomplished experts from the science and technology communities.

The President and I express our deep appreciation to you for taking the time to nominate an individual, team, company, or organization for the 2003 National Medal of Technology. Your assistance in encouraging others to identify high-quality candidates for the award and for all that you do to advance the cause of science and technology is valued. Your efforts are fundamental to our ability to find and honor America's great achievers and to inspire the next generation of innovators.

Sincerely,

Donald r Evans